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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,465	11/19/2003	Syunji Haruyama	04329.3182	3764
22852 7590 03/27/2007 FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			EXAMINER HSU, AMY R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2609	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		03/27/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/715,465	Applicant(s) HARUYAMA, SYUNJI	
	Examiner Amy Hsu	Art Unit 2609	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/19/2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,7 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4-6,8,10-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 November 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/16/2005 and 11/19/2003</u> .                                | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

***Drawings***

1. Figure 1 and 4 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 3 and 7 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding Claim 3, the claim reads "...when the main body is accommodated in the recess..." which makes the claim unclear because according to applicant's disclosure in Fig 2, the recess (reference number 102) is within the main body (reference number 1) so the main body, which contains the recess cannot be in the recess. It is suggested that the claim clearly describe that the camera unit must first be accommodated in the recess then the projections on side of the camera unit will abut against the side wall of the recess to set the camera unit in position, as is clearly stated in Claim 6.

Regarding Claim 7, the same phrase is incorrectly repeated twice and renders the claim ambiguous as to what is being claimed. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1,3,7,9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchiyama (US 6,900,843), and further in view of Ford (US 6715939).

Regarding Claims 1 and 7, Uchiyama teaches an electronic camera and an associated method where the camera is comprised of a main body having *(Fig. 1 reference number 11b)* having a flat bottom surface *(vertical extreme right surface of 11b)* and a flat side *(top and bottom horizontal surface of 11b)* which cooperatively form a frame and having a recess *(the area within 11b)* with rib slots on its side *(the side is defined as the inside horizontal edges on the top and bottom of 11b and has a slot on the left of the described side to receive a rib or tab)*. Uchiyama also teaches the camera unit constructed by connecting a flexible cable *(lead wire in Fig. 5 reference number 33 and Col 5 Lines 65-66)* to a substrate (circuit board in Fig. 1 reference number 23) on which a camera IC portion is mounted (Fig. 1 reference number 20). Uchiyama teaches a holder

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having a window portion through which the camera IC portion is passed and a cover portion which covers the camera unit (the shape and structure of the front body in Fig. 1 reference number 11a accomplishes this feature) and the holder having ribs, which are tabs used for the purpose of connecting the two housings, and engage with the respective aforementioned rib slots (*Fig. 1 shows the ribs as the protruding piece on 11a under the area marked G and is shown to engage with the rib slot which is part of 11b under G*). Figure 1 shows the camera unit housed in the recess together with the older in which the camera IC portion is passed through the window portion, and fitting the ribs into the respective rib slots to incorporate the camera unit into the main body. Uchiyama teaches the limitations of Claim 1, however other than the ribs being depicted in Fig. 1, is silent on further details and specifically pointing out the ribs and features of the ribs and rib slots. This would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to look to prior art for further details of the ribs and method to incorporate the use of the ribs. Ford specifically teaches ribs used to engage with rib slots to hold together two parts of a housing used to enclose a camera in Fig. 1. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Uchiyama by using the similar but more specifically depicted ribs of Ford because the usage of the ribs in Ford would enhance the reliability of the connection between the two parts of the housing in Uchiyama.

Regarding Claims 3 and 9, Uchiyama teaches a camera unit set in place within a main body, but fails to teach specifically that the camera is set in place by use of projections on the side of the camera attaching to the side wall of the

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recess within the main body. Ford teaches a camera unit wherein each side portion of the camera unit is provided with a plurality of projections (Fig. 1 reference 41 are PC boards which act as projections due to the function of the edges, which is to be inserted into ridges of the main body to hold the camera unit in place) which abut against a side wall of the recess (Fig. 1 reference number 21 are ridges on the side wall of the recess). When the camera is accommodated in the recess, the projections abut against the side wall to set the camera unit in position. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings in Uchiyama where two sides of a housing or body come together to enclose a camera unit and to modify it by enclosing the camera specifically by using projections on the side of the camera to the side of the inside of the housing as taught by Ford, because since the housing is two different pieces, it is obvious to realize the camera needs to be securely connected to the housings by attaching the housing to something connected to the camera. Realizing that the camera should be attached to the housing by physically attaching the camera to the housing, one of ordinary skill in the art would have looked to prior art, such as Ford, for the specific structure of the connections.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claim 2, 4-6, 8, 10-12 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure including US 7161630, JP 2002-314857, US7110033, US6795120, US2004/0027458, US6760074, US7180546, US 5517683, JP2002-247425.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amy Hsu whose telephone number is 571-270-3012. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Amy Hsu  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2609

AH 3/15/2007

  
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